

REMARKS

Claims 10-23 were pending in the application. Claims 21 and 22 are allowed. Claims 17, 19 and 23 were objected to. Claims 10-16, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claim 10 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 23. Claims 17 and 19 have been amended into independent form.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Substitute Specification

The Office Action indicates that a Substitute Specification is required showing the changes made in the previous response dated June 11, 2007. Accordingly, a Substitute Specification, including both clean and marked-up copies, is being submitted herewith. The changes indicated in the Substitute Specification are those that were previously made during prosecution. No new changes are included.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciatively thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 21 and 22. Applicants also appreciatively thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter recited in claims 17, 19 and 23. Claims 17, 19 and 23 were objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include the subject matter of their base and any intervening claims. Claim 17 has now been amended into independent form by including the subject matter of its base claim, i.e. previously presented claim 10. Claim 19 has now been amended into independent form by including the subject matter of its base claim, i.e. previously presented claim 10, and intervening claim, i.e. previously presented claim 18. The subject matter of claim 23 has now been added to independent claim 10.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 10-16, 18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,337,465 to Spracklen et al. ("Spracklen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,736,796 to Price et al. ("Price").

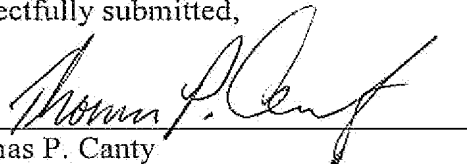
As discussed in the previous section, independent claim 10 has now been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 23. Thus, independent claim 10 and its dependent claims 11-16, 18 and 20 are patentable over the cited references. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments made and arguments presented, Applicants respectfully submit that the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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